

REMARKS

The amendments to Claims 1-8, and the addition of new claim 9, are made to eliminate the multiple dependencies and to place the claims in proper U.S. format. The effect of the foregoing amendments relates only to matters of form, and the substance of the claims remain the same. The present amendment is deemed not to add new matter. Claims 1-9 are in the application.

It is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early action and allowance thereof is accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 25, 2006

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment in Docket No. TOS-165-USA-PCT, corresponding to PCT/JP2004/017835, the corresponding U.S. national stage application being filed herewith on May 25, 2006, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on May 24, 2006.

Donald E. Townsend, Jr.

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